

ROUND THE WORLD

INDIAN PRESS

Complaint Against Soviet Economic Oppression

Some Indian papers have recently voiced discontent with the Soviet Union for oppressing India economically.

Business Standard in a June 17 report expressed doubts about "the readiness expressed by the U.S.S.R. Government to render appropriate assistance" for India's economic development as was stated in the recent Soviet-Indian Joint Declaration. "Will this time political intervention achieve economic results that could not be achieved in the past? The 1973 protocol [the protocol of Soviet-Indian 'economic co-operation' signed during Brezhnev's visit to India] has the highest political sanctions. But still the list of unimplemented proposals is rather long," the report noted.

Many instances cited in the report showed that among the items to be exchanged within the framework of the Soviet-Indian economic "co-operation" agreed upon during Brezhnev's 1973 visit, there was equipment such as power generators which the Soviet Union was always eager to sell abroad and which the Indians could manufacture themselves; plus shoddy Soviet airliners and electronic equipment which the Soviet Union wanted to find a foreign market for. As to the items such as crude oil and ships which the Indians hope to get, the Soviet side has been hitherto reluctant to provide.

"In the matter of terms of trade," the report pointed out, "it [the Soviet Union] is as big a beneficiary as any other developed country vis-a-vis non-oil-producing developing countries. In fact, in the Indo-Soviet trade, the terms of trade have significantly moved in favour of the U.S.S.R. in the last three years since it is a supplier of petroleum products and fertilizers."

Indian Express said in an article on June 17: "The conditions of the

Soviet loans have been rather stiff, stiffer than the ones given by the West." *Times of India* also wrote: "The Soviet claim that its loans are very soft has less credibility today than in the 1950s."

Recently *The Hindu* editorially castigated the Soviet Union for its unilateral imposition of a higher parity rate of the ruble to the rupee. It said: "In any event, there is no case for a mark-up of the ruble value by well over 30 per cent from the rate proposed by the Indian Government." This means a sharp increase of 4,000 million rupees in India's debts to the U.S.S.R.

"VOICE OF THE PEOPLE
OF THAILAND"

Victories of People's Armed Forces

The people's armed forces in southern Thailand have scored splendid victories in their fight against the enemy. This was pointed out in an article broadcast recently by the "Voice of the People of Thailand."

The article said that in 14 engagements between early January and June 8 this year, the people's armed forces killed or wounded 69 enemy troops. They also took a number of captives and seized 260 firearms of various descriptions.

In eight of the 14 engagements, they launched attacks on such enemy strongholds as "village guards" posts, regional police stations, district and sub-district police stations as well as offices of the district administrative organs.

"These brilliant victories won successively by the southern people's armed forces were due to their adherence to the correct political line of the Communist Party of Thailand, to the full mobilization and organization of the masses to take part in a people's war, to their bravery and militancy, to their adherence to annihilating operations and their strict

implementation of the policy towards captives," the article said.

THE SUDAN

Military Coup Smashed

The Sudan has foiled another military coup.

On July 2, a spokesman of the Sudanese Government in a statement noted that while President Nimeri was returning home from visits abroad, some armed elements staged a coup d'etat at dawn that day. But this criminal attempt was quickly smashed by the Sudanese People's Armed Forces.

On July 3, President Nimeri in a nationwide radio speech highly praised the Sudanese people and the People's Armed Forces for their heroic role in smashing the military coup.

He said: "The revolution has repulsed the enemy coming from abroad who tried to achieve, through aggression from outside, what the conspirators inside the country had failed to achieve." The continued occurrence of such conspiracies, he pointed out, showed that the enemy of the Sudanese people was opposed to the development of the Sudan and the progress of its people.

HUNGARY

Prices Raised Again

According to a Hungarian government decision, the retail prices of meat and meat products were increased from July 5 by an average of 30 per cent and that of fish also by 30 per cent.

This is the second time that Hungary has raised commodity prices since the price hike on January 5 this year and the fifth since January 1975.

The repeated raising of commodity prices in Hungary which reflects the many difficulties and contradictions in its economy is an inevitable result of exploitation and plunder by the Soviet social-imperialists. The Soviet Union has in recent years again and again raised the prices of its exports to that country. Calculated on the basis of the data published in the

Hungarian press, last year Hungary suffered an unfavourable balance to the tune of more than 140 million U.S. dollars in its trade with the Soviet Union. This year Moscow again lifted the price of its oil exports to Hungary by nearly 10 per cent. At the same time, the Soviet Union asked Hungary to increase the supply of grain, beef cattle and meat to make up for its successive crop failures. In 1974, for instance, it imported from Hungary over 4,800 tons of pork and beef, over 3,200 tons of poultry meat, 100 million eggs and more than 320 tons of tinned meat. In 1975, its meat imports from Hungary had another substantial increase.

"IL BOLSCEVICO" (ITALY)

Soviet Menace Denounced

While prating about "peace" and "detente," the Soviet social-imperialists are actually engaged in frenzied arms expansion and war preparations. This was revealed by an article published recently in the Italian journal *Il Bolscevico*.

The article pointed out: "The struggle between the two superpowers for world hegemony is becoming ever more acute as a result of the continuous development of the international economic crisis and the shrinking of market and sales for the imperialists. A dark cloud of war has appeared on the horizon." "The new tsars, who have usurped the power of the state of Lenin and Stalin and thrown the Soviet Union into a dark fascist dictatorship of the Hitler type, are not content with the exploitation of their own people and nation." They have long since kept covetous eyes on the riches, markets, techniques and resources of the Western countries, and "will not live in peace until they have laid their hands on all these or got crushed for that."

In the past few years, the article noted, Soviet social-imperialism has been increasing the military spending to alarming proportions, stepping

up arms production and revving up its war machines, thus militarizing the national economy in an all-round way. Its aim, the article pointed out, is to catch up with and surpass its tough adversary in offensive capabilities in a drive to "conquer and enslave the people of the world, including all those who wish to safeguard their freedom, sovereignty and independence and oppose this vicious robber (Soviet revisionism)."

While beefing up its ground and air forces, the article went on, the Soviet Union is also going all out to expand its naval force. Since 1962, it has built four times as many ships as those of the United States. Today, there are always more than 60 Soviet warships on the prowl in the Mediterranean and in the North Sea. Soviet nuclear submarines have also grown in number.

Noting the fierce contention between the two superpowers in Europe, the article said: "What worries the European people most" is "that the Soviet troops, with ensured military and food supplies, are now in a better position to launch a surprise attack."

SOUTH KOREA

Aftermath of Colonialist Economy

Under the reactionary rule of the Pak Jung Hi clique, south Korea's economy, which is being daily turned into that of a colony, is coming to grips with an increasingly serious crisis.

To shore up its fascist rule and finance its arms expansion and war preparations, the clique is unscrupulously selling out national interests through huge imports of foreign capital. To date, the external debts incurred by the south Korean authorities have exceeded 5,780 million U.S. dollars. In the first quarter of this year, the clique imported another 1,142 million U.S. dollars of foreign capital. Lately, it drew up a "long-term plan for importing foreign capital," totaling 10,100 million U.S. dollars, for the fiscal years 1977-81. In this way south Korea has been reduced to a

workshop processing foreign-made products, a dumping ground for foreign goods, an outlet for foreign capital and a source of cheap labour power.

Foreign monopoly capital is already in control of south Korea's major industrial departments such as oil, iron and steel, machine-building, cement, electricity and chemical fertilizer. The foreign capital's share in south Korea's total output value is 70 per cent; 80 or even 100 per cent of the raw materials consumed by south Korea's major industrial departments have to be imported.

Foreign monopoly capital has also opened banks in south Korea to issue loans and make big profits. From 1959 to the end of last year foreign monopoly capital has raked in 1,081 million U.S. dollars as interest for its "loans." This year, south Korea is required to pay the foreign monopoly capitalists 522 million U.S. dollars of interest.

The foreign monopoly capitalists who are bleeding the south Korean people white have made superprofits. In the first half of 1975 they took away from the working people there profits amounting to 230.4 million U.S. dollars.

South Korea has been in the red in its foreign trade from year to year. According to statistics released by the authorities in Seoul, south Korea's foreign trade deficit this year will reach 3,000 million U.S. dollars, an increase of 1,000 million over the previous year.

This year, prices continue to spiral up. Electricity cost has risen by 16 per cent, postage 100 per cent, and running water 35 per cent since March 1. Recently coal price went up by 12 per cent, those of rice by 26 per cent and wheat by 43 per cent. As a result of the shortage of funds and raw materials and skyrocketing prices, many enterprises of various sizes have collapsed.

CORRECTION: In issue No. 28, p. 6, third column, lines 9, 10 and 11 from the bottom should read "China in the I.O.C., the international Olympic movement and other international sports organizations. . . ."